

REMOVING CONTAMINANTS FROM NATURAL GAS

Abstract of the Invention

A process for removing contaminants from a natural gas feed stream including water and sour species is provided, which process comprises the steps of cooling the natural gas feed stream in a first vessel (12) to a first operating temperature at which hydrates are formed and removing from the first vessel (12) a stream of dehydrated gas (34); and cooling the dehydrated gas in a second vessel (14) to a second operating temperature at which solids of the sour species are formed or at which the sour species dissolve in a liquid and removing from the second vessel (14) a stream of dehydrated sweetened gas (62).